

of the bridge to use the same and approaches without charge. It should be stated that the measure provides that if this complete exemption is held invalid by the Courts, commutation tickets at reduced rates should be issued. As the opinion points out, commutation tickets are justified alone on the basis of extensive use, and not because of the place of residence of the particular holder.

Representatives of automobile clubs also point out that the only justification for tolls is in the creation of entirely new facilities. Under this bill, bridge tolls would be used for the construction of an additional highway. The contention is also made that motorists are already heavily burdened by taxation and that until it is shown that no other means are available for this improvement, a new system of tolls should not be invoked.

Under the circumstances, I feel compelled to veto the measure.

SCHOOLS.

Chapter 123 (House Bill 191). This measure seeks to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 45 of Article 77 of the Code, title "Public Education," sub-title "Chapter 4—County Board of Education." Its applicability is limited to Allegany and Garrett Counties.

The main purpose of the Bill is to bring about a situation where the title to school buildings, sites and grounds which are no longer needed for school purposes which vest in the County Commissioners. Provision is made that the County Commissioners may sell, lease or otherwise dispose of such property.

The Board of Education of Garrett County and the County Superintendent of Schools of that County unanimously oppose its approval. In their protest they point out that the enactment might deprive the Board of Education of property for which it may later have a genuine need in promoting the educational interests of the county. It is further shown that legal questions might be raised which would complicate the handling of the property, the title to which, after having been vested in one County Board, would revert to another County Board. The School authorities contend that these technicalities would nullify any steps that might be taken to put in force the provisions of the Act.

In view of the attitude of the School authorities and because of the serious question affecting school administration which is raised, I feel compelled to veto the measure.